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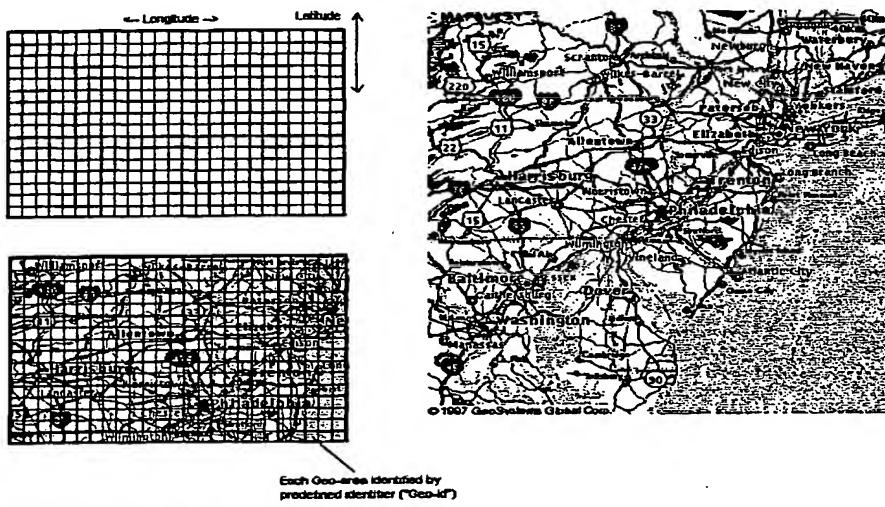
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR DATA COMMUNICATIONS AND DYNAMIC NETWORKING BETWEEN VEHICLES



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(57) Abstract: A network permits communications between and among moving vehicles, such as automobiles, and fixed stations, such as transceivers. The fixed transceivers could be located, for example, on a specially equipped road system or global positioning satellites (GPS) devices. A communications unit on each vehicle is capable of transmitting information and receiving information transmitted from other moving or stationary units (e.g., on the specially equipped road system). A preferred embodiment of the communications unit transmits data indicative of its current location, so that each communications unit "knows" the physical location of the other communications units. The communications units use wireless transmission and reception to communicate with each other. Dynamic IP addressing is provided such that each communication device is associated with a local network having a local pool of dynamic IP addresses, such that the local pool of dynamic IP addresses is associated with a predefined geographic area (Figure 2) or volume.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US00/18136

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) :G06F 15/16; H04Q 7/00
US CL :709/228; 370/328

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 709/220, 221, 227, 228; 370/328

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,592,172 A (BAILEY et al.) 07 JANUARY 1997 ABSTRACT, Figure 5-6, 14, Column 1, Lines 48-59, Column 2, Lines 9-25, Column 4, Line 10 through Column 5, Line 9, Column 6, Lines 25-28, Column 7, Lines 12-29	1-5
Y	US 5,862,345 A (OKANOUE et al.) 19 JANUARY 1999 ABSTRACT, Figure 3, 4A, 4B, Column 1, Line 52 through Column 2, Line 63, Column 3, Line 53 through Column 4, Line 12, Column 4, Lines 33-59, Column 5, Lines 28-52, Column 6, Lines 15-20	1-5

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Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer MARC THOMPSON <i>James R. Matthews</i> Telephone No. (703) 305-3900

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y, P	US 6,052,725 A (MCCANN et al.) 18 APRIL 2000 ABSTRACT, Figures 1-4, Column 1, Lines 36 through Column 2, Line 19, Column 2, Line 51 through Column 3, Line 65, Column 4, Lines 45-57, Column 5, Lines 9-18, Column 8, Lines 5-32	1-5
Y, P	US 6,122,268 A (OKANOUE et al.) 19 SEPTEMBER 2000 ABSTRACT, Figure 1-5, 8-9, Column 1, Lines 45-54, Column 2, Lines 1-30, Column 2, Line 39 through Column 3, Line 48, Column 4, Line 30 through Column 6, Line 36, Column 7, Lines 19-34	1-5
A	US 5,652,751 A (SHARONY) 29 JULY 1997 Entire document	1-5
A	US 5,708,655 A (TOTH et al.) 13 JANUARY 1998 Entire document	1-5

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Electronic data bases consulted (Name of data base and where practicable terms used):

EAST US Patent search

Terms: dynamic network layer (IP) address assignment, address pool, geographic location/area/region/position/longitude/latitude,

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